

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Fine particles, comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of a polyolefin and a polyolefin copolymer; and

at least one magnetic material enclosed within the polymer and within the fine particles, wherein the particles are substantially spherical particles having a density of 0.9 to 1.5 g/cc and an average particle size of 0.5 μm to 1,000 μm , and the particles have a functional group on the particle surface.

2. (previously presented): The fine particles according to Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene, a polyethylene, and mixtures thereof, and the polyolefin copolymer is selected from the group consisting of a propylene copolymer, an ethylene copolymer, and mixtures thereof.

3. (previously presented): The fine particles according to either Claim 1 or 2, wherein the functional group is at least one group selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl group, an amino group, a hydroxyl group, a sulfonic acid group, and a glycidyl group.

4. (previously presented): The fine particles according to Claim 3, wherein the functional group is selected from the group consisting of;

(1) a functional group in a graft polymer formed by subjecting particles to surface graft polymerization,

(2) a functional group bonded to an aliphatic hydrocarbon that is present on the particle surface; and

(3) a functional group in a comonomeric unit copolymerized into the polyolefin copolymer.

5. (previously presented): The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 2, wherein the average particle size is 1.0 μm to 100 μm .

6. (previously presented): The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 2, wherein the density is 1.0 to 1.1 g/cc.

7. (previously presented): The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 2, wherein the magnetic material is a soft magnetic material.

8. (previously presented): The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 2, wherein the magnetic material is a superparamagnetic substance.

9. (previously presented): The fine particles according to Claim 7, wherein the soft magnetic material is selected from the group consisting of a manganese-zinc ferrite, a nickel-zinc ferrite, and a mixture thereof.

10. (previously presented): The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 2, wherein the content of the magnetic material is 10 to 25 wt % relative to the total weight of the fine particles.